

REMARKS

The Office Action dated June 24, 2008, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, 13-18, 20-21, 26, 30, 32-36, 40, and 42-47 are currently pending in the claims, of which claims 1, 19-20, 35, and 46-47 are independent. Claims 1, 6-7, 18, 20, 26, 32, 35, and 46-47 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter has been added. Claims 25, 27, and 50 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, 13-18, 20-21, 26, 30, 32-36, 40, and 42-47 are respectfully submitted for consideration and timely allowance.

Claim 27 was objected to as being dependent on rejected base claims, but was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The features of claim 27 and the claims from which it depended have been incorporated into each of the pending independent claims. Accordingly, all of the claims currently recite allowable subject matter. Claim 27 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

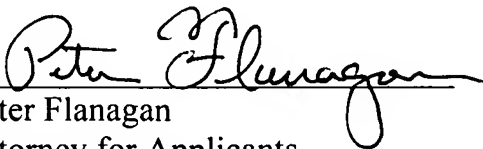
Claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, 13-18, 20-21, 25-26, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 42, and 45-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,230,017 of Andersson et al. ("Andersson") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,011,973 of Valentine et al. ("Valentine"). Claims 34 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Andersson in view of Valentine and further in view of “Lindgren” which is not specifically identified, but which appears to be U.S. Patent No. 6,775,534 of Lindgren et al. (“Lindgren”). Claims 43-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Andersson in view of Valentine and further in view of “Kowaguchi” and “Choi et al.” which appears to refer to U.S. Patent No. 6,201,973 of Kowaguchi (“Kowaguchi”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,594,492 of Choi et al. (“Choi”). Each of these rejection is moot and should be withdrawn, since each of the presently pending claims incorporates allowable subject matter, as discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, 13-18, 20-21, 26, 30, 32-36, 40, and 42-47 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited art. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that all of claims 1-2, 6-7, 11, 13-18, 20-21, 26, 30, 32-36, 40, and 42-47 be allowed and this application be passed to issuance.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,


Peter Flanagan
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 58,178

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Vienna, Virginia 22182-6212
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

PCF:dlh

Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
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